

PRESS RELEASE



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DENVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS HONORS THE CITY OF BRIGHTON AND ADAMS COUNTY

DENVER – The City of Brighton and Adams County received a 2017 Metro Vision Award from the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG). The award was presented at DRCOG's annual awards celebration on April 26 at the Sheraton Downtown Denver.

In an innovative collaboration, the City of Brighton and Adams County developed a District Plan that encourages smart growth, sustainability and economic development around agritourism and farmland preservation. In response to the recent decline and fragmentation of existing farmland, the City and County worked in tandem to define a new land use category that would allow food cultivation and food processing to operate alongside businesses and community.

"The District Plan aligns with the goals of Metro Vision to promote regional planning and partnerships and to be thoughtful and innovative in how we think about sustainability, economic development, transportation networks, food systems, and the overall quality of life of our residents," said Abel Montoya, director of Long Range Strategic Planning department for Adams County.

Brighton is a community of 36,000, and growth is expected to add another 12,000 residents and 6,000 jobs over the next decade. The City of Brighton and Adams County have proactively identified a way to preserve the area's historic farming heritage, envisioning food systems that coexist with farm-to-table restaurants, breweries and bed and breakfasts. A significant amount of research and public engagement informed the District Plan, providing a solid plan with a vision that is reflective of the community as a whole.

DRCOG's Metro Vision Award program recognizes exemplary projects, plans and initiatives that significantly improve the quality of life in the Denver region and its communities. The regional council has been honoring outstanding achievements for more than 30 years.

The Denver Regional Council of Governments is a planning organization where local governments collaborate to establish guidelines, set policy and allocation funding in the areas of transportation and personal mobility, growth and development and aging and disability resources.

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